

A HANDBOOK

TO

The Historical Records in the Office
of the Secretary to the Agent to the
Governor General, Eastern States
and Political Agent at Sambalpur.

1803—1856.



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PREFACE.

In 1930, when the Handbook to the Bihar and Orissa Provincial Records was under preparation, the Government of Bihar and Orissa decided as part of that work to compile, in a separate volume, a Handbook to the historical records in the office of the Political Agent and Commissioner, Orissa States at Sambalpur. The work was entrusted to Mr. K. P. Mitra. The volume had been completed but not published on the 1st April 1933, the date on which the Orissa States came into direct relations with the Government of India and the office of the Political Agent and Commissioner became that of the Secretary to the Agent to the Governor General, Eastern States and Political Agent. The volume is now published by the Government of Bihar and Orissa with the approval of the Agent to the Governor General, Eastern States.

W. B. BRETT,

RANCHI,

The 6th May 1933.

*Offg. Chief Secretary to the
Government of Bihar and Orissa.*

P R E F A C E.

In the Record Room of the Political Agent and Commissioner, Orissa States, at Sambalpur, are contained historical records relating to the Tributary Mahals under the jurisdiction of the Superintendent, Tributary Mahals, Cuttack and Agent to the Governor-General at Sambalpur. The Government of Bihar and Orissa decided that the investigation of historical records relating to districts created after 1800 should be carried up to 1856 approximately. Following that decision, an indication has been given in this Handbook of the nature and general contents of the historical records found here ranging between 1803 and 1856. The records are kept arranged in bundles according to subject matter in different collections and files. By way of sample more detailed information has been supplied in respect of the States of Mayurbhanj and Dhenkanal.

There are no Press-Lists, the subject being noted on the back of each folded letter in the bundle.

MONGHYR,

The 9th September 1931.

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K. P. MITRA.

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File no.	Subject.	Date.
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CHAPTER II.

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Serial no.	Date and number of letter.	From whom.	To whom.	Subject.
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File no. 1.—Claims of Rancee Sumitra Dei to compensation for relinquishing the right to levy tolls on Pilgrims (1804—1809).

1	30th August, 1804	Thos. Morgan, Capt., Acting Superintendent, C. N. Division, Cuttack.	Col. G. Harcourt, Commissioner for settling the affairs of Cuttack.	Sends a 'translate' of the Raja-Rancee Soomitra Dei Bunj-claims for duties, etc., and collections made at the Gauts and in Perganas rented to her in Balasore district with an account of extra customs. Opines if Gauts at Nursingpur and Koontha be delivered to her, heavy taxes will be levied on Jagannath pilgrims, "considerably interrupting communication between Bengal and province of Cuttack".
2	Revenue, Board, 1807, dated the 31st December, 1806. Recd., 6th January, 1807. Consult, 20th January, 1807.	G. Webb, Collector, Cuttack ..	John Lumsden, President and Members of the Board of Revenue, Ceded and Conquered Provinces, Fort William.	Sends a petition of Rancee Soomitra Bhani.
3	Cons. no. 3, dated the 20th January, 1807.	Board of Revenue ..	Collector of Cuttack ..	Asks him to ascertain what foundation there is for the Rancee's assertion that the Maharatta Government sanctioned collections by taking charge of them under its own officers and by paying part of them to the Rancee, at the same time relieving her from payment of pesheush.
4	15th April 1807 (Cons. no. 5, dated the 21st April, 1807).	G. Webb, Collector of Cuttack	John Lumsden, Esq., President and Members, Board of Revenue.	Forwards the original sanad with a translation (no. 6), granted by the Maharatta Government allowing a six annas share of the collection of tolls at the ghāt.
5	Cons. no. 7, dated the 21st April, 1807.	Board of Revenue ..	Governor-General in Council ..	Reports on the claims of the Rancee to compensation for relinquishing levy of tolls on pilgrims.
6	Cons. 9th June, 1807 (no. 16).	Board of Revenue ..	Collector of Cuttack ..	Asks for accurate account of the actual net collections received by the Rancee from pilgrims, and to say what amount of Jummah should be assessed on the territory on the principle stated in Section 27, Regulation XII of 1806.

Recommends that the pesheush with the exception of 5 gold mohurs per annum as a tributary acknowledgment be given up in lieu of the compensation.

File no. 2.—Succession of Tribikram Bhunge (1810—1812).

1	15th September, 1810 (Revenue Department Cons. no. 29 of 25th September).	R. Mitford, Acting Zillah Cuttack.	Burrish Crisp, Acting President and Charles Buller, Member, Board of Revenue, Fort William.	Sends two petitions with documents presented to him by Teer Blektrum Bhunge claiming killah Mohurbhunge as lawful heir by adoption of the late Raja Damoodar Bhunge; also Rancee's reply.
2	25th September, 1810 (Revenue Department Cons. no. 29 of 25th Sep- tember).	Board of Revenue	Acting Collector of Cuttack ..	Board disapprove of any interference on the part of Collector; ask him to inform Roy Blektrum Bhunge that his claims should be preferred to a Court of Justice.
4	11th July, 1811 (Cons. no. 31 of 20th July).	Edward Scott Waring, Collec- tor, Zillah Cuttack.	R. Thackeray, Secretary to the Board of Revenue.	Sends a petition of the adopted son of the late Raja of Mohurbhunge praying for insertion of his name in the register. The first wife being dead the second wife acknowledged the adoption of her late husband. Issued proclamations.
4	20th July, 1811 (Cons. no. 32 of 20th July).	Board of Revenue	Collector of Cuttack	Ask him to report if the killah is registered in the name of the first wife deceased, or the second wife acknowledged as the proprietor of the killah under the name of the Rancee of Mohur- bunge; issue of proclamation objectionable.
5	1st August, 1811 (Cons. no. 37 of 7th August).	Edward Scott Waring, Collec- tor, Zillah Cuttack.	R. Thackeray, Secretary to the Board of Revenue.	Informs that the name of the deceased widow is still on the register.
6	7th August, 1811	Board of Revenue	Collector of Cuttack	Ask him to report how the late Rancee acquired the proprietary right of the Killah.
7	22nd August, 1811 (Cons. no. 121 of 31st December).	Edward Scott Waring, Collec- tor, Cuttack.	R. Thackeray, Secretary to the Board of Revenue.	Informs that the Rancee acquired proprietary right under the Mahratta Government, and was so acknowledged by British Government, on conquest of the Province. The present Raja who is now in possession with the consent of the second wife offered to forego his claim on the pilgrim-tax and to pay tribute, and petitioned to be installed in his lawful inheritance.
8	31st December, 1811 ..	Board of Revenue	Collector of Cuttack	"The Board are aware of no objections to your entertaining the name of Raja Teer Blektrum Bhunge as tributary proprietor of the territory of Mohurbhunge."
9	3rd March, 1812 (Cons. no. 2 of 17th March).	Edward Scott Waring, Col- lector, Zillah Cuttack.	W. H. Trant, Secretary to the Board of Revenue.	Acknowledges receipt of his letter enclosing petitions from Chumpa Dei, one of the wives of the late Raja of Mohurbhunge; was ignorant of her claims. No returns made to proclamations issued by Mr. Mitford and himself. Teer Blektrum Bhunge is in possession almost two years.

Serial no.	Date and number of letter.	From whom.	To whom.	Subject.
1	2	3	4	5
		File no. 2.—Succession of Tribikram Bhunge (1810—1812)—concluded.		
10	10th March, 1812 (Cons. no. 3 of 17th March).	Edward Scott Waring, Collector, Zillah Cuttack.	W. H. Trant, Secretary to the Board of Revenue.	Mokhtar of Chumpa Dei, an impostor, sends a copy of acknowledgment from the wives of the late Raja admitting the present possessor to be the lawful heir.
11	17th March, 1812 (Cons. no. 4 of 17th March).	Board of Revenue	Acting Collector of Cuttack	Board "do not deem it advisable to take any further notice of the claim of Rance Chumpa Dei to the Mohurbunge Estate."
12	24th March, 1812	G. Warde, Acting Collector, Zillah Cuttack.	W. H. Trant, Secretary to the Board of Revenue.	Reports necessary engagements concluded this day with Raja Teer Bickram Bhunge in conformity with Resolution of Government.
		File no. 3.—Tribute fixed at Rs. 1,001.		
1	14th January, 1812 (Cons. 24th January, no. 7).	E. S. H. Waring, Collector of Cuttack.	W. H. Trant, Secretary to the Board of Revenue.	Anxiety of the Tributary Raja of Mohurbunge to be acknowledged by British Government as lawful inheritor of that estate has induced him to propose a tribute of Rs. 1,001 per annum also to forego his right to levy tax on pilgrims. The offer is not to be considered as indicative of any doubt of the justness of his claim.
			Governor-General in Council	"Are inclined to think that the proposal from the proprietor of Mohurbunge may meet with your Lordship's approval."
2	27th January, 1812	Board of Revenue	Board of Revenue	The Governor-General in Council authorises the adoption of your proposition for fixing the revenue payable by the proprietor of Mohurbunge at Rs. 1,001 on condition that he shall relinquish all claim to compensation for levying duty on pilgrims.
3	3rd March, 1812	Governor-General in Council		Teer Bickram Bhunge who had been
		File no. 4.—Dispute to the succession raised by Rani Champa Dei against Teer Bickram Bhunge in 1812.		
			G. Warde, Secretary to the Member of the Board of Revenue.	"If the claim of Teer Bickram Bhunge was good, I conceive, he would have been put in possession by the Malabar Government, or his claim would have been decided by gentlemen deputed as Commissioners to settle the affairs of the division."
1	24th February, 1813	W. Trower, Collector of Cuttack		Sends a petition of Pat Rance Chumpa Dei making allegations against Teer Bickram Bhunge.

2	20th March, 1813	..	Board of Revenue	..	Collector of Cuttack	..	Directs him to conclude necessary engagements with Teer Biekrum Bhunge for payment of Rs. 1,001 as the annual established tribute—also to ascertain the truth of the Rance's allegation.
3	10th April, 1813	..	John Richardson, Cuttack	..	Governor-General in Council	..	Gives a summary of the case. Remarks that "the territory of Mohurbunge" is for the present exempted from the operation of general regulations under the rules prescribed in Section 37, Regulation XII, 1805.
4	Letter no. 1255, dated the 17th April 1813.	..	G. Dowdeswell, Chief Secretary to Government, Council Chamber.	..	J. Richardson, Cuttack	..	The Rt. Hon'ble Governor-General in Council directs him to adopt measures for protection of the person of Chumpa Dei against ill designs of Teer Biekrum Bhunge.
5	22nd April, 1813	..	J. Richardson, Cuttack	..	Collector of Cuttack	..	Requests him to proceed without loss of time to obtain release of Chumpa Dei.
6	17th May, 1813	..	W. Trower, Collector of Cuttack	..	G. Warde, Secretary to the Member of the Board of Revenue on deputation, Cuttack.	..	Teer Biekrum Bhunge sets at defiance Government, and its orders and prevents Rance from proceeding to Cuttack, advises adoption of coercive measure.
7	24th April, 1813	..	G. Dowdeswell, Chief Secretary to Government.	..	John Richardson, Cuttack	..	Governor-General in Council directs you and the Acting Judge at Cuttack jointly to make a regular and full enquiry regarding the right of succession to that estate, according to laws and usages established in the Mahals of that description.
8	Three petitions from Ram Shebak Chowdhury, Prom Shevak Chowdhury and another on deputation to killah Mohurbunge stating that Rance Chumpa Dei was closely guarded by Teer Biekrum Bhunge.						
9	26th April, 1813	..	W. Trower, Collector of Cuttack	..	G. Warde, Secretary to Member, Board of Revenue, on deputation.	..	Informs that he deputed a respectable person with two <i>chaprasis</i> to bring the Rance Chumpa Dei from Mohurbunge. One Hinraudeen calling himself the vakil of the Rance presented a letter said to be written by the Rance that she was not confined by Teer Biekrum Bhunge.
10	19th May, 1813	..	Board of Revenue	..	Collector of Cuttack	..	Conduct of Teer Biekrum Bhunge contumacious and refractory in the extreme in offering opposition to the prompt execution of Government orders to release Chumpa Dei. Intimate to him that such conduct will bring upon him displeasure of Governor-General in Council.
11	Enclosure to above Proceedings, dated the 19th May, 1813.	..	John Richardson	..	Governor-General in Council	..	Reports that Teer Biekrum Bhunge placed Rance Chumpa Dei under guard of 200 pykes; suggests use of force to support authority of Government. Enquires if the charge of murder of Jagannath Bhooina brought against Teer Biekrum be investigated by Commissioner or otherwise.
12	No. 1761, dated the 29th May, 1813.	..	G. Dowdeswell, Chief Secretary to Government.	..	J. Richardson	..	Use of military to be employed as far as may be necessary for liberating Rance Chumpa Dei. "You and Mr. Sage will institute a separate enquiry regarding the homicide".

COLLECTION : MOHURBUNGE—continued.

Serial no.	Date and number of letter.	From whom.	To whom.	Subject.
1	2	3	4	5

File no. 4.—Dispute to the succession raised by Rani Champa Dei against Teer Bickram Bhunge who had been recognised as heir to the *gadi* by Government in 1812—concluded.

Governor-General in Council is of opinion that Champa Dei has entirely failed to establish claim to killah Mohurbunge in preference to Teer Bickram Bhunge who may now be left in undisturbed possession of the Estate. Provision for Champa Dei from the produce of Zamindary. Complete enquiry re charge of murder.

J. Richardson and W. C. Ward, Commissioners for enquiring into the claim of Champa Dei to the killah of Mohurbunge.

G. Dowdeswell, Chief Secretary to Government.

13 11th June, 1814

File no. VII.—Bamanghati Disturbance, 1831—1835.

R. D. Mangles, Secretary to Government, Fort William.

Captain T. S. Wilkinson, Governor-General's Agent.

1 Letter no. 36, dated the 22nd August, 1836.

Letter in 58 paragraphs giving a report on the Coles of Singbhum from 1818. Plundering expeditions of Larka Coles, into neighbouring countries. Singbhum nominally subject to the Raja of Porahat. On 31st November, 1831, Capt. Wilkinson reported to Mr. Stockwell, Commissioner, Cuttack, that a misunderstanding had arisen between Mohurbunge Raja and Bamanghaty Mohapater. According to orders of Government, dated the 6th December, 1831, Bamanghaty Mohapater and Cole Peers were to consider themselves under jurisdiction of Cuttack Commissioner. Throughout the disturbance the Coles in Bamanghaty Peers, viz., Toosee Peer, Burbeira Peer, Omiah Peer and Lalgarh Peer were engaged either in support of Mohapater or Mohurbunge Raja. Mr. Ricketts and Capt. Wilkinson adjusted differences between Mohurbunge Raja and Mohapater in April 1833. Organised plunder by Coles at Nursingpur and Burbera Peer of Bamanghaty villages of Toosee Peer and Burbera Peer. Mohurbunge troops. Mohurbunge (August, 1831), assisted by Mohurbunge troops. Coles of Lalgarh and Pergannah of Oberbhang attacked by Coles of Lalgarh and Omiah Peers. Cole excesses in Sonpur directly under British management to be placed in charge of a European Officer supported by a detachment of Rangarh battalion and establishment of schools for instruction of the rising generation.

2	No. 1429, dated the 24th May, 1832.	J. Thomason, Deputy Secretary to Government.	...	G. Stoekwell, Superintendent of Tributary Mahals, Cuttack.	...
3	No. 1455, dated the 27th May, 1832.	Ditto	...	Capt. Wilkinson	...
4	21st April, 1834	H. Ricketts, Magistrate, Balasore.	...	John Master, Acting Commissioner, 19th Division, Cuttack.	Sends original petition from the Mohkhar of Madoo Das Mohapatra and original draft of letter written by him to Captain Wilkinson, Governor-General's Agent, S.-W. F. The Mohapatra alleges that the Larka Coles overran the whole of Bamanghatee at the instigation of the Mohurbunge Raja. The appearances are against the Raja.
5	No. 499, dated the 29th April, 1834.	J. Master, Commissioner	...	Magistrate of Balasore	Sends him a copy of letter addressed by him to Secretary to Government in the Judicial Department. A company of the 33rd Regiment N. I. may be permanently stationed at Balasore. "It is highly probable that the Mohurbunge Raja when aware of support obtained by the Magistrate would desist from giving to the Coles that evil counsel which there seems reason to believe he has been in the habit of supplying."
6	5th May, 1834	C. Macaween, Secretary to Government, Council Chamber.	...	H. Ricketts, Magistrate, Balasore.	Vice-President in Council does not approve of your suggestion to have a company of 33rd N. I. permanently at Balasore.
7	23rd December, 1834	H. Ricketts, Collector of Balasore.	...	Capt. Wilkinson, Agent, S. W. F., Hazaribagh.	Sends a communication from the Raja of Mohurbunge intimating that Ajambar Singh caused four Coles to be sacrificed to Thakurain during the Dabee Puja in November, in consequence of which the Coles would probably attack Serailkela. The Raja protests against being blamed for anything the Coles may do.
8	No. 305, dated the 20th March, 1835, Judicial Department.	R. D. Mangles, Secretary to Government of Bengal.	...	H. Ricketts, Magistrate of Balasore.	Sends copy of letter dated the 7th February from Capt. Wilkinson, Agent to Governor-General under Regulation XIII of 1833. Directs him to warn Raja of Mohurbunge not to attack Koor of Serailkela and Thakoor of Kharsawan on pain of displeasure of Government and forfeiture of Zamindary. Similar orders to Capt. Wilkinson to warn Raja of Singhbhum. Enclosure two ardes from Raja of Singhbhum or Porahat. Raja of Singhbhum wanted to help Mohurbunge Raja against Baman-guatty Mohapatra and attack Koor of Serailkela and Thakur of Kharsawan.
9	26th March, 1835	H. Ricketts	...	R. D. Mangles	Says that the Mohurbunge Raja complains of the assistance given by the Koor of Serailkela to Mohapatra of Bamanghatty.
10	No. 635, dated the 16th June, 1835.	R. D. Mangles, Secretary to Government of Bengal.	...	H. Ricketts, Collector of Balasore.	Sends extract of paragraphs 1-4 of a letter of Capt. Wilkinson regarding assistance alleged to have been afforded by the Koor of Serailkela to Mohapatra of Bamanghatty. He does not believe it.

Regarding restoration of Madhav Dass to Bamanghatty and his supremacy over Cole peers, tranquillity and withdrawal of troops: Vice-President paroned his crimes; he must restore all property plundered in the late disturbance, must restrain himself and Dhurwar Coles or others from plunder; must pay regularly to the Raja of Mohurbunge what is acknowledged to be his due.

Sends original petition from the Mohkhar of Madoo Das Mohapatra and original draft of letter written by him to Captain Wilkinson, Governor-General's Agent, S.-W. F. The Mohapatra alleges that the Larka Coles overran the whole of Bamanghatee at the instigation of the Mohurbunge Raja. The appearances are against the Raja.

Sends him a copy of letter addressed by him to Secretary to Government in the Judicial Department. A company of the 33rd Regiment N. I. may be permanently stationed at Balasore. "It is highly probable that the Mohurbunge Raja when aware of support obtained by the Magistrate would desist from giving to the Coles that evil counsel which there seems reason to believe he has been in the habit of supplying."

Vice-President in Council does not approve of your suggestion to have a company of 33rd N. I. permanently at Balasore.

Sends a communication from the Raja of Mohurbunge intimating that Ajambar Singh caused four Coles to be sacrificed to Thakurain during the Dabee Puja in November, in consequence of which the Coles would probably attack Serailkela. The Raja protests against being blamed for anything the Coles may do.

Sends copy of letter dated the 7th February from Capt. Wilkinson, Agent to Governor-General under Regulation XIII of 1833. Directs him to warn Raja of Mohurbunge not to attack Koor of Serailkela and Thakoor of Kharsawan on pain of displeasure of Government and forfeiture of Zamindary. Similar orders to Capt. Wilkinson to warn Raja of Singhbhum. Enclosure two ardes from Raja of Singhbhum or Porahat. Raja of Singhbhum wanted to help Mohurbunge Raja against Baman-guatty Mohapatra and attack Koor of Serailkela and Thakur of Kharsawan.

Says that the Mohurbunge Raja complains of the assistance given by the Koor of Serailkela to Mohapatra of Bamanghatty.

Sends extract of paragraphs 1-4 of a letter of Capt. Wilkinson regarding assistance alleged to have been afforded by the Koor of Serailkela to Mohapatra of Bamanghatty. He does not believe it.

COLLECTION: MOHURBUHANG

1 — THE ENKANAL.

[illegible]

Forward, original petition presented by Rance Kundan Dei of Killa Dhorakanal, from which it appears that the Estate is administered by manager appointed by him.

Intimates to him apprehension of disturbance in the estate owing to the attempt of 5,000 people to place the ousted Rance Musal, Pechbas Mahadel in the Nore as personal guardian of the adopted Kala.

3	No. 2042, dated the 22nd November, 1831.	J. Thomason, Deputy Secretary to Government.	G. Stockwell, Superintendent of Tributary Mahals.	Approves of arrangement proposed in his report.
4	8th June, 1832	D. Pringle, Offg. Magistrate of Fouzdary Adalat.	George Stockwell, Superintendent of Tributary Mahals.	Sends some depositions re disturbance in Dhenkanal.
5	9th June, 1832	Ditto	Ditto	Sends further depositions.
6	No. 161, dated the 11th June, 1832.	G. Stockwell	David Pringle	Gives instructions for the elucidation of the foul murder committed in Dhenkanal. The persons murdered were supporters of Rane Khandan Del.
7	15th June, 1832	Acting Magistrate	G. Stockwell	Submits two affidavits.
8	No. 193, dated the 14th July, 1832.	G. Stockwell	Secretary to Government	Reports that murders have been committed in Dhenkanal, recommends that the natural father of the adopted Raja be his guardian and Mr. Wilkinson try persons accused of murder.
9	No. 1856, dated the 17th July, 1832.	J. Thomason	R. Hunter, Offg. Superintendent of Tributary Mahals.	Asks him to recall Saeant Rae from Dhenkanal and direct Mr. Wilkinson to take charge of the Estate. "Tributary Rajas do not possess uncontrolled power of life and death over their own dependants."
10	Nos. 203 and 204, dated the 23rd July, 1832 and 25th July, 1832.	Superintendent of Tributary Mahals.	W. Wilkinson.	Forwards original records connected with the affairs of Dhenkanal.
11	No. 205, dated the 25th July, 1832.	Superintendent of Tributary Mahals.	Acting Magistrate	Says under Government order enquiry into the case and control of the Estate made over to Mr. Assistant Superintendent Wilkinson.
12	11th August, 1832	Assistant Superintendent of Tributary Mahals.	R. Hunter	Returns original correspondence.
13	10th September, 1832	W. Wilkinson, Assistant Superintendent of Tributary Mahals.	Ditto	Kundan Del begs to be removed to Cuttack as she fears death like her murdered servants. Proposes to raise a force of 150 irregulars to take effectual possession of the killah.
14	25th September, 1832	J. Thomason	R. Hunter, Offg. Superintendent of Tributary Mahals.	Wilkinson's proposal to raise irregulars approved by Government.
15	No. 2682, dated the 23rd October, 1832.	Ditto	R. Hunter	Forwards a petition of Rane Peetbas for report. Send the report to Mr. Wilkinson and ask Rane Peetbas and Nityanand to deliver up their servants for trial.
16	5th November, 1832	W. Wilkinson	Ditto	Replies to queries asked by J. Thomason re adoption.
17	No. 3107, dated the 27th November, 1832.	Secretary to Government	Ditto	Government not in possession of full facts to decide the respective claims of the Ranees. Make satisfactory arrangement without employing military force if possible.

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